

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Monitoring the Implementation of Property Master Plans

Property or Properties: Rib Mountain State Park

Year Master Plan was Approved: 2005

Property-wide

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES Management Policies	Communication Towers Future requests for Department approval of public communications towers and facilities other than the Marathon County tower project, will constitute a change in the management classification for the future tower site to a special management area (NR44). Further, additional communications towers and facilities are not consistent with the "primary purpose" of a State Park as providing "areas for public recreation and for public education in conservation and nature study"
Accomplishments 2010	<i>No Action</i>

Property-wide

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES Deer Management	<p>The objective is to reduce the deer population in the park (deer management unit 57D) to a level equal to the population goal of the larger deer management unit 57A, which will both allow forest regeneration, promote healthy and natural understory vegetation in the park, and reduce deer damage on adjacent private lands.</p> <p>The following actions will be used to meet this objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open select areas of the park (see "Authorized or Restricted Public Uses" for each of the Management Zones) to:
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Muzzle-loader only gun deer hunting on the regular 9-day gun season and the 10 day muzzle-loader gun season. - Bow hunting during the late season only. • Monitor the deer population and if necessary designate “special hunts” or use other means of reducing the population within the park. • Work cooperatively with the Town of Rib Mountain to educate
Accomplishments 2010	<p><i>.Opened about 100 acres of additional land along the north and east side of the park to the 19 day muzzle-loader gun season and late bow season. Continued.</i></p> <p><i>Began process of potential Learn to Hunt program</i></p>

Property-wide

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES Real Estate Mtg.	Recent Park Land Acquisitions / Transactions Acquire acreage within the expanded project boundary totaling 700 acres. Existing Leased Areas The management of land and resources within these leased areas are governed by the terms of the existing lease agreements which stipulate that the Wisconsin DNR “shall continue ownership of the land and provide administrative oversight to insure the public’s rights, title and interest are protected and furthered by the Lessee”.
Accomplishments 2010	<i>No Action</i>

Scenic Recreation Zone

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p> <p>Recreation Mtg. Area</p>	<p>Recreation Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for scenic viewing • Provide opportunities for large group picnics and outdoor social events in a wooded setting. • Provide opportunities for a variety of family and small group picnics and outdoor social events in a wooded setting with or near scenic vistas. • Provide a “fully developed trail” for use by exercise walkers and joggers, (separated from vehicular traffic) from Violet Lane to the top of the hill. • Provide approximately 1-mile of primitive* hiking / snowshoe trails within the Scenic Recreation Zone • Provide varied, high-quality Park interpretive and educational facilities and programs that prominently focus on the Park’s history, natural features, cultural features, and unique geological features. • Provide quality, essential visitor services and facilities: • Provide facilities for maintenance and storage of equipment and office space for Park personnel <p>Vegetation Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the area’s vegetation in a neat, park-like, semi-natural condition to provide for public enjoyment, education, scenic quality, wildlife habitat and other ecological benefits.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>Maintained all of the above as stated.</i></p> <p><i>Began construction on full developed trail along road to be completed this spring.</i></p> <p><i>Completed foundation for new office facility, scheduled to be completed this spring</i></p>

Active Recreation Zone (Ski Hill Lease Area)

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p> <p>Recreation Mtg. Area</p>	<p>The management of the Active Recreation Zone is governed by the terms of the existing Lease Agreement, which stipulates that the DNR continues to “provide administrative oversight through the Lease in order to ensure the public’s rights, title and interest and protected by the Lessee”. No changes in management of the ski area are proposed.</p>
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Accomplishments 2010	<i>Continued general oversight of Granite Peak Ski Area Lease.</i>
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Natural Recreation Zone

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES Recreation Mtg. Area	Recreation Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for solitude, hiking, snowshoeing, nature / wildlife viewing and the enjoyment of scenic vistas in a secluded, mountainous, forested setting on the northeast and northwest sides of the Park. • Provide approximately 1.5-miles of club managed connector snowmobile trail across the southwest corner of the Park. • Provide opportunities for rustic group camping and hike-in rustic camping at 3-4 sites in a secluded and forested setting. Vegetation Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the northern hardwood forest community dominated by larger diameter, mature trees.
Accomplishments 2010	<i>Development of additional hiking snowshoe trails on west end</i> <i>Maintained status on snowmobile connector trail</i>

State Natural Area

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES Native Community Mtg. Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve and protect the highest concentration of rare plants in the Park, including the quartzite talus slopes and seeps that provide habitat for many rare species, and provide opportunities to study the natural processes of the forest and the microhabitats.
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Accomplishments 2010	<p><i>No action.</i></p> <p><i>Installed interpretive sign about SNA to educate users about area</i></p>
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Marathon County Communications Tower Lease Area

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES Special Mtg. Area	<p>The existing tower will remain in place and operable until the completion of a replacement tower and equipment building. It is anticipated that at that time the existing tower will be removed and the lease for this area will be terminated. A determination will be made regarding the historical significance of the equipment building and it will either be demolished or preserved according to that determination.</p>
Accomplishments 2010	<p><i>Marathon County has completed a new building and tower is currently working on communication set-up. Old buildings to be removed.</i></p>